Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-50

Abamectin

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Publications
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2720 Riverside Drive
A.L. 6604-E2
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Internet: pmra.publications@hc-sc.gc.ca
healthcanada.gc.ca/pmra
Facsimile: 613-736-3758
Information Service:
1-800-267-6315 or 613-736-3799
pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca

Canada

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on grapes to the product label of Agri-Mek 1.9% EC Insecticide/Miticide, containing technical grade abamectin, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Agri-Mek 1.9% EC Insecticide/Miticide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24551.

The evaluation of this abamectin application indicated the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for abamectin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRL for abamectin in Canada in or on food, to be added to the MRLs already legally established, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Abamectin

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Abamectin	avermectin B_1 (a mixture of avermectins containing greater than or equal to 80% avermectin B_{1a} (5-*O*-demethyl avermectin A_{1a}) and less than or equal to 20% avermectin B_{1b} (5-*O*-demethyl-25-de(1-methylpropyl)-25-(1-methylethyl)avermectin A_{1a}) and its delta-8,9-isomer)	0.02	Grapes

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2009-3273.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRL for abamectin in Canada is the same as the corresponding tolerance established in the United States (tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide). Currently, a Codex Alimentarius MRL[2] has not been established for abamectin on grapes. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for abamectin up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL for abamectin and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.